



Join me in renewing our commitment to make
healthier, safer, and more productive lives
a reality for people in the U.S. and around the world.

—Dr. Stephen L. Cochi, Acting Director
National Immunization Program

Mission and Goals

of the National Immunization Program

The National Immunization Program works to prevent disease, disability, and death in children and adults through vaccination.

To achieve this mission, NIP strives to

- **Prevent disease.** Eradicate, eliminate, or control vaccine-preventable disease in the U.S. and globally.
- **Achieve maximum immunization coverage.** Raise and sustain vaccine coverage levels for all populations for all recommended vaccines.
- **Establish effective partnerships.** Engage new and existing partners to fulfill our mission.
- **Conduct reliable scientific research.** Provide scientific leadership in vaccine-preventable disease control and delivery of vaccines.
- **Implement effective immunization systems.** Build and sustain systems that ensure vaccination.
- **Ensure vaccine safety.** Promote safety of vaccines and immunization practices.

*To learn more about the work of the National Immunization Program,
we invite you to explore the 2005 NIP Annual Report.*

1923–1927

Diphtheria, whole-cell pertussis, and tetanus vaccines become available.

1963

Measles vaccine is licensed.

Congress establishes the Immunization Grant Program to ensure that children, adolescents, and adults receive appropriate immunizations through partnerships with health providers in the public and private sectors.

1966

CDC announces the first national Measles Eradication Campaign.

1977

CDC receives report of the last case of endemic smallpox in the world, in Somalia.

CDC launches the National Childhood Immunization Initiative to attain immunization levels of 90% throughout the United States.

1982

CDC reports an all-time low of 1,714 measles cases, a reduction of more than 99% from the annual average of 500,000 cases in years before measles vaccine was available.



1955

Inactivated polio vaccine is licensed.

1964

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), designed to provide CDC with recommendations about vaccine use, holds its first meeting at CDC.

1971

CDC recommends discontinuation of routine vaccination for smallpox in the United States.

1979

Last case of polio caused by wild polio virus is acquired in the United States.

1988

CDC establishes a unit dedicated to the global eradication of polio and provides technical assistance to support the World Health Organization resolution to eradicate polio from the world.

1993

The National Immunization Program is established to increase immunization coverage and to protect children younger than age two from vaccine-preventable diseases.

As a result of NIP's cost-benefit analysis, Medicare decides to cover flu immunization.

2000

Measles is no longer endemic in the U.S.

2003

The National Immunization Program celebrates the tenth year of record reductions in vaccine-preventable diseases in the U.S.



1991

CDC assists in planning a national immunization initiative to ensure that 90% or more of all children are fully vaccinated by their second birthday.

CDC provides laboratory support for the eradication of polio from the Americas.

1995

Vaccine for chickenpox (varicella) is licensed.

1998

Nation-wide immunization objectives for the year 2010 are established, including one addressing vaccine safety.

2004

Rubella is declared no longer endemic in the U.S.

NIP's Global Immunization Division reports that, from 1999 through 2003, there has been a 39% drop in measles-related deaths worldwide.